
TABLE OF CONTENTS

Part I: History	3
Part II: Smart Growth and Neighborhood Conservation Initiatives	7
Smart Growth Areas	8
Rural Legacy	10
The Voluntary Cleanup and Brownfields Programs	11
Job Creation Tax Credit	13
Live Near Your Work	14
Part III: Governor Glendening's Executive Order : Smart Growth and Neighborhood Conservation Policy	15
Part IV: State Initiatives	19
Public Outreach, Education and Assistance	19
Smart Growth Website.	19
Smart Growth Video	19
Models and Guidelines	20
Technical Assistance	20
Outreach	21
Education	21
Economic Growth, Resource Protection, and Planning Act ...	22
Neighborhoods	23
Quality Community Services	23
Housing Development Programs	23
Neighborhood Partnership Program	23
Smart Growth/Smart Ideas Homeownership Initiative ..	24
Maryland Mortgage Program	24
Main Street Maryland	24
Neighborhood Business Development Program	25
Neighborhood Stabilization Preservation Act of 1996 ..	25
Neighborhood Conservation Program	26
Retrofit Sidewalk Program	26
State Facilities Planning and State Purchases	26
Job Creation	27
Enterprise Zones	27
Maryland Heritage Preservation and Tourism Areas Program	27
Business Assistance and Permit Coordination	28
Public Schools ...	28
Public School Construction Program ..	28
The Aging School Program	29



Public Safety	29
HotSpot Communities Initiative	29
Community Policing	30
Expanded Policing Activities	30
Gun Control Legislation	31
Transportation	31
Smart Growth Transit Program	31
Transit Plus	31
Preservation	32
Agricultural Land Preservation Foundation:	
Agricultural Easements	32
Maryland Environmental Trust:Environmental Easements	32
Maryland Historical Trust:Historic Preservation Easements	33
Historical Trust Grants and Loans	33
Program Open Space	33
Forest Conservation Program	34
Buffer Incentive Program	34
Forest Legacy Program	35
Stewardship Incentive Program	35
Wild Acres Program	36
Conservation Resource Enhancement Program	36
Farmland Preservation Atlas	37
Environmental	37
Hazard Mitigation Assistance	37
Water and Sewerage Infrastructure Financing	37
State Air Emission Offset Banking and Trading Program	38
Ecosystem Management Assessment Program	39
Appendix	41
Smart Growth Executive Order	

PART I: HISTORY

Sprawl is inefficient. It stretches out the distances people must travel to work, to shop, to worship, to play. It fails to relate these activities in ways that strengthen each and, thus, it suppresses values that orderly relationships and concentration of uses would stimulate.

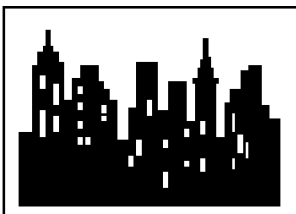
Sprawl is ugly, oppressive, massive, dull. It squanders the resource of nature - forests, streams, hillsides - and produces vast, monotonous armies of housing and graceless, tasteless clutter.

But, worst of all, sprawl is inhuman. It is anti-human. The vast formless sprawl of housing pierced by the unrelated spotting of schools, churches, stores, creates acres so huge and irrational that they are out of scale with people - beyond their grasp and comprehension - too big for people to feel a part of, responsible for, important in.

James W. Rouse
Cities that Work For Man: Victory Ahead
San Juan, Puerto Rico: October 18, 1967

In the 1960s and before, Marylanders of many persuasions and professions were advocating strong growth management. With words, actions and vision, James Rouse, nationally-recognized commercial and new town developer, was joined by political leaders, planners, environmentalists and citizens in urging better environmental protection and land use planning.

State planning began in Maryland in the 1930s. In 1959, a new State planning law was enacted to strengthen centralized coordination of planning in the executive branch, establish long range goals and aid local jurisdictions in their pursuit of planning responsibilities delegated to them by State enabling legislation. Within a decade, functions were expanded to prepare the capital improvement program and budget, prepare functional plans and provide planning grants to local jurisdictions to support preparation of comprehensive plans.



Starting with Governor Marvin Mandel in the late 60s, each successive governor greatly expanded efforts and assistance to better manage the State's natural resources, improve tools for land use management and integrate the wide variety of programs to achieve multi-purpose goals. For the first time, the governors recognized the need for growth management and policies to guide growth and development. Central to many of these initiatives and their motives was the shared need to protect the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries.

During the 1960s, several forward-thinking environmental protection and land conservation programs were initiated. In 1967, the Maryland Environmental Trust was established to conserve, improve, stimulate and perpetuate the aesthetic, natural, scenic and cultural aspects of the Maryland environment. The Scenic and Wild Rivers program was initiated in 1968. Today, the program recommends resource management plans for the designated rivers, shorelines, and related lands. The following year, Program Open Space was established to acquire outdoor recreation and open space and for public use. Subsequently, this program was expanded to support park and open space development, as well. Also in 1969, the State began to encourage private construction of low- and middle-income housing through grants and loans.

The Shore Erosion Control Program began the provision of loans and grants to prevent shore erosion of the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries. Coastal zone protections were initiated in 1973, providing assistance to sixteen coastal counties and the City of Baltimore. In 1974, the Maryland Automated Geographic Information (MAGI) System became operational. This computer-based system of geographic data was the foundation for the state-of-the-art Geographic Information System we have today.

In 1970, Maryland began to protect tidal wetlands. State protection of non-tidal wetlands was authorized in 1989, with regulation commencing in 1991.

Within the same decade, the State initiated several additional environmental and land protection programs. The Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Program was created in 1977. Considered the most successful such program in the country, the Agricultural Land Preservation Program is intended to preserve productive agricultural land and woodland in Maryland, provide for the continued production of food and fiber, curb the extent of urban sprawl and protect agricultural land and woodland as open space. Also during the 70s, the



State initiated noise pollution control and hazardous substance standards and controls.

In 1982, the first comprehensive State policies for physical and economic development were put into effect by an Executive Order signed by Governor Harry R. Hughes. The Executive Order created the State Development Task Force, composed of elected officials, citizen representatives and technical personnel to advise a Development Council. The Council was created to coordinate the State's programs and policies for physical and economic development. The Order also established six principles to guide State investments and actions: enhance the viability of existing communities and urban areas; protect productive agricultural land and assure the conservation and wise balanced use of natural resources; increase economic development and employment opportunities; protect and improve the quality of the environment; promote the efficient use of nonrenewable energy resources; and, pursue efficient provision of transportation, utilities and other public investments.

In 1983, the multi-state Chesapeake Bay Agreement ushered in a new era of intergovernmental commitment to restoring the Bay. The Agreement was reaffirmed in 1987. A key point in that agreement is a recognition that population growth and its associated development patterns are major causes of environmental degradation. The 1987 Agreement also established benchmarks - the most notable of which was the goal of reducing 1985 nitrogen and phosphorous levels in the Chesapeake Bay by 40 percent. In 1988, the "Year 2020 Panel," created as a result of the Agreement, issued its final report: "Population Growth and Development in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed to the Year 2020." The Panel set out a series of Visions and Actions.

The Critical Areas Program was enacted in 1984. This landmark program monitors a 1,000-foot shoreline strip around the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries. It also regulates land use within that area.

Under the leadership of Governor William Donald Schaefer, the Economic Growth, Resource Protection, and Planning Act was enacted in 1992. This legislation put into State policy the "Visions" of the Year 2020 Panel and established statewide growth management policies and mandates. Within the last decade several other protections were initiated. Notably in 1992, the Forest Conservation Act was adopted. This program aims to protect Maryland's forests and trees by establishing prevention and mitigation standards which effectively prevent the wholesale destruction of trees.

The evolution is on-going. While programs and actions were initiated incrementally over many decades, the 1997 Smart Growth and Neighborhood Conservation initiatives, along with the Governor's Executive Order, finally create a well-integrated tapestry of policies and programs to grow smarter and support and nurture our older communities. Maryland continues to develop and refine its programs and policies to address the land use needs of the late 1990s and beyond. The 1998 Session of the General Assembly is considering several key initiatives, including comprehensive water quality and nutrient management proposals to address the threats of Pfiesteria. A Port of Baltimore land development proposal and an expansion of historic preservation tax incentives also will be considered. The broad offerings of programs provided by several State agencies are detailed in Part IV of this publication.

This document provides program information which can assist the public to better accommodate growth and improve existing developed areas.

For additional information, please contact the agency officials listed in this publication or:

- RONALD M. KREITNER, MARYLAND OFFICE OF PLANNING DIRECTOR 410/767-4500
- RONALD N. YOUNG, POINT PERSON FOR SMART GROWTH INITIATIVE 410/767-4502
- JOHN FRECE, GOVERNOR'S SPECIAL ASSISTANT FOR SMART GROWTH OUTREACH 410/260-8112
- THOMAS BASS, SMART GROWTH POLICY SUPPORT TEAM 410/767-4500

PART II: 1997 SMART GROWTH AND NEIGHBORHOOD CONSERVATION INITIATIVES

AN OVERVIEW

In 1996, Governor Parris N. Glendening announced his priority commitment to develop and secure passage of a wide-reaching package of legislation to strengthen the State's ability to direct growth and to enhance our older developed areas. The goal was to develop a coordinated strategy to better prepare for the growth of over one million people in the next twenty years and to preserve Maryland's desired quality of life for tomorrow's generations.

Over several months, the Governor and key staff reached out to hundreds of interested groups and citizens. Meetings and forums were held in all 23 counties and Baltimore City; letters and phone calls seeking input and ideas were generated. By the end of the year, over 100 legislative and administrative suggestions were submitted. This effort resulted in a package of five bills and one budget item submitted to the General Assembly for its consideration. Within four months, the General Assembly approved the following:

- Smart Growth Areas Act: A law limiting most State infrastructure funding related to development to existing communities or to those places designated by State or local governments for growth.
- Rural Legacy: A grant program to create greenbelts to protect geographically-large rural areas from sprawl through purchase of easements and development rights.
- Brownfields - Voluntary Cleanup and Revitalization Incentive Program: Three programs to facilitate clean-up of contaminated areas and commercial/industrial development on those sites.
- Job Creation Tax Credit: Income tax credits to businesses which create new jobs within designated areas to promote redevelopment.
- Live Near Your Work Demonstration Program: State, employer and local government matching cash grants to home buyers who purchase homes near their workplace.



Collectively, these initiatives employ the power of planning and the purse to improve older urban areas, encourage infill and compact new development and preserve rural areas. Other incentives, especially administrative initiatives, are under consideration. An overview of the 1997 Smart Growth Initiatives follows.

Smart Growth Areas

Smart Growth Areas or “Priority Funding Areas” reflect Maryland’s policy to support, and where necessary, revitalize existing communities. These are areas where there already is significant financial investment in existing infrastructure. This policy fosters economic vitality and improves the quality of life by maintaining and improving infrastructure and services in existing communities.

The 1997 Smart Growth Areas Act builds on the foundation created by the set of Visions for Maryland’s future adopted as State policy in the 1992 Growth Act. That Act requires local governments to revise and periodically update their Comprehensive Plans to reflect these Visions. (See page 22 for greater detail on the Growth Act).

The 1997 Smart Growth Areas Act capitalizes on the influence of State expenditures on economic growth and development. This legislation directs State spending to “Priority Funding Areas.” Priority Funding Areas are existing communities and other locally designated areas, consistent with the 1992 Visions, where the State and local governments want to encourage and support economic development and new growth. Focusing State spending in these areas will provide the most efficient and effective use of taxpayer dollars, avoid higher taxes which would be necessary to fund infrastructure for sprawl development, and reduce the pressure for sprawl into agricultural and other natural resource areas.

The Smart Growth legislation automatically designates several areas which form the traditional core of the State’s urban development locations targeted for economic development, as Priority Funding Areas: municipalities, Baltimore City, areas inside the Baltimore and Washington beltways, neighborhoods which have been designated by the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development for revitalization, Enterprise Zones, and Heritage Areas within county designated growth areas.



This legislation authorizes counties to designate additional Priority Funding Areas which meet established minimum criteria. Priority Funding Areas designated by counties must be based on an analysis which determines the capacity of land areas available for development, and the land area which will be necessary to satisfy demand for development. With this analysis in hand, counties may designate areas as Priority Funding Areas if they meet specified use, water and sewer service, and residential density requirements. Counties may designate existing communities and areas where industrial or other economic development are desired. In addition, counties may designate areas planned for new residential development. Areas eligible for county designation are:

- Areas with industrial zoning (Areas with new industrial zoning after January 1, 1997, must be in a county-designated growth area and be served by a sewer system.);
- Areas with employment as the principal use which are served by, or planned for, a sewer system (Areas zoned after January 1, 1997, must be in a county-designated growth area.);
- Existing communities (as of January 1, 1997) within county-designated growth areas which are served by a sewer or water system and which have an average density of 2 units per acre;
- Rural villages designated in local Comprehensive Plans before July 1, 1998; and
- Other areas within county-designated growth areas that:
 - reflect a long-term policy for promoting an orderly expansion of growth and an efficient use of land and public services,
 - are planned to be served by water and sewer systems, and
 - have a permitted density of 3.5 or more units per acre for new residential development.

Counties are not required to designate Priority Funding Areas or to designate all of the eligible areas. In addition, county designation of Priority Funding Areas does not restrict the location of private sector or county development. County-designated Priority Funding Areas simply are areas the county wants to be eligible for State funded growth projects. One goal of directing State projects to Priority Funding Areas is to make these areas more attractive for residents, potential residents and private sector development and redevelopment.

Beginning October 1, 1998, the State must direct funding for “growth related” projects to Priority Funding Areas. “Growth related” projects defined in the legislation include most State programs which encourage or support growth and development such as highways, sewer and water construction, economic development assistance, and State leases or construction of new office facilities. State funding in communities with only water service (without a sewer system) and in rural villages is restricted to projects which maintain the character of the community. The projects must not increase the growth capacity of the village or community.

The Smart Growth bill does recognize that there are times when the State will need to fund projects that are outside Priority Funding Areas and makes provision for determining and approving those exceptions on a case-specific basis.

*Contact: James Noonan, Maryland Office of Planning
(410/767-4562)*

Rural Legacy

The 1997 Rural Legacy initiative establishes a grant program to protect targeted rural greenbelts from sprawl through the purchase of easements and developments rights in “Rural Legacy Areas.” The mission of the program is to protect “Rural Legacy Areas” - regions rich in a multiple of agriculture, forestry, natural and cultural resources that, if conserved, will promote resource-based economies, protect green belts and greenways and maintain the fabric of rural life. The Rural Legacy Program provides the focus and funding necessary to protect large contiguous tracts of land and other strategic areas from sprawl development, and enhance natural resource, agricultural, forestry and environmental protection through cooperative efforts among State and local governments and land trusts. Protection is provided through the acquisition of easements and fee estates from willing landowners and the supporting activities of Rural Legacy sponsors and local governments.

Local governments and private land trusts are being encouraged to identify Rural Legacy Areas and to competitively apply for funds to complement existing land conservation efforts or create new ones. This Program is in addition to - not in place of - existing programs such as the Agricultural Land Preservation Program and Program Open Space (see pages 32-33 for details).

For FY 1998 through 2002, \$71.3 million has been authorized. If funding is continued at this level after five years, the State could protect up to 200,000 acres of resource lands by the year 2011.

The program is administered by the Rural Legacy Board. Board members are the Secretary of Natural Resources, the Secretary of Agriculture and the Director of the Maryland Office of Planning. An eleven-member advisory committee is comprised of government officials, agricultural and forestry and mineral industry representatives, environmental and conservation organization representatives, developers and a private land owner.

*Contact: Grant Dehart, Maryland Department of Natural Resources
(410/260-8403)*

The Voluntary Cleanup and Brownfields Programs

Many unused or abandoned properties that are contaminated, or even perceived to be contaminated, are not attractive to commercial and industrial developers because of the uncertainty about future liability. Because of these liability concerns, developers and businesses often choose to locate on “greenfields” - pristine farms and open spaces - without needed infrastructure, such as roads and utilities. This contributes to the loss of farms and open spaces, increases the amount of taxpayer dollars spent on funding new infrastructure and impedes neighborhood revitalization efforts.

This package of three bills aims to make development on these former industrial sites more feasible and desirable - and a reality.

VOLUNTARY CLEANUP

The Voluntary Cleanup Program, administered by the Department of the Environment, reforms the process used to clean up eligible properties that are or are perceived to be contaminated by hazardous waste. In addition to providing a streamlined cleanup process, the legislation changes the liability scheme for certain prospective owners of eligible properties in the Program to encourage the transfer of properties. These changes provide more “certainty” regarding environmental requirements to both responsible persons and future owners of a property, thereby allowing parties to more accurately predict costs and time lines associated with a cleanup and increasing the likelihood of cleanup and redevelopment.



*Contact: Jim Metz, Maryland Department of the Environment
(410/631-3493)*

BROWNFIELDS PROGRAM

The Department of Business and Economic Development's Brownfields Revitalization Incentive Program provides economic incentives to certain properties proposed to be purchased by someone who has not previously owned the site and who has not been responsible for the contamination at the site. The property must be a former industrial or commercial site located in a densely populated urban area and substantially underutilized. Furthermore, an existing site which poses a threat to the public health and the environment qualifies for economic incentives, provided that in all of the above cases the jurisdiction where it is located has adopted local ordinances granting a Brownfield Property Tax Credit.

Contact: Steve Lynch, Maryland Department of Business and Economic Development (410/767-6390)

BROWNFIELD SITE ASSESSMENT

The Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) is continuing its Brownfield Assessment Initiative, using federal funding to conduct site assessments at no cost to property owners on certain brownfield sites. To be eligible for the program, sites must be vacant or underutilized. Remediation must be feasible. Finally, sites must allow for redevelopment which will create jobs and improve the local tax base. The assessments conducted by MDE include complete Phase I and Partial Phase II assessments. To date, assessments have been conducted at 24 sites; 29 new assessments are planned.

Contact: Art O'Connell, Maryland Department of the Environment (410/631-3493)



Job Creation Tax Credit

The Job Creation Tax Credit Act, passed in 1996, was expanded to encourage mid-sized and smaller businesses to invest in Smart Growth Areas around the State. Small businesses comprise almost 80 percent of Maryland business and generate the majority of new job growth in the State.

This new initiative will encourage small business development and job growth in areas accessible to available labor pools and will encourage more efficient use of the State's existing infrastructure. It promotes job creation by providing income tax credits to "targeted growth sector" businesses which create at least 25 jobs in Priority Funding Areas or 60 jobs outside those areas.

The jobs must be full-time, permanent and pay at least 150 percent of the minimum wage. Positions filled after December, 1996, must be newly created in a single Maryland location. As of July 1, 1997, the State had issued 43 certifications (associated with 10,300 new jobs, paying an average of \$36,000) and received 39 additional letters of intent (associated with 4,600 jobs) statewide.

Contact: Jerry Wade, Maryland Department of Business and Economic Development (410/767-6438)

Live Near Your Work

The Live Near Your Work initiative provides a package of incentives, support services and partnerships with local governments, financial institutions and private market employers to encourage employees to buy homes near their work. The Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development is administering this pilot program. This initiative will stabilize the neighborhoods surrounding the State's major employers by stimulating home ownership in targeted communities. In addition to providing resources for programs sponsored by public and private institutions, the State is participating as a major employer.

Three hundred thousand dollars have been appropriated for FY 1998 for this program. The State hopes to continue and expand this pilot program in future years to other employers and jurisdictions. Through the program, a participating employer contributes \$1,000 for every employee. The \$1,000 is matched by \$1,000 from the State and \$1,000 from the local government. The employee also contributes \$1,000 as part of the down-payment or closing costs of the house. Currently, 24 employer partners have opted to take part in the program. They include small and large businesses and institutions in Baltimore City, Baltimore County, College Park, Denton, Hagerstown, Salisbury and Silver Spring. More businesses have expressed interest and undoubtedly will participate.

Contact: John Papagni, Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development (410/514-7175 or 1/800/756-0119)

PART III:EXECUTIVE ORDER CONCERNING THE STATE AGENCY IMPLEMENTATION OF SMART GROWTH AND NEIGHBORHOOD CONSERVATION

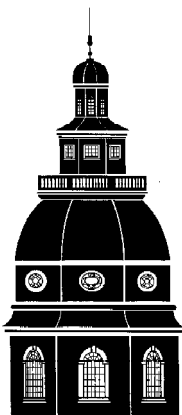
Governor Parris N. Glendening has issued an Executive Order to implement the Smart Growth Areas Act of 1997. The Order requires that all agencies implement the spirit of the Act and establishes procedures to be followed by the State government in doing so.

In announcing the Order, Governor Glendening said “this Executive Order goes beyond the limits of our Smart Growth legislation and says that the future actions of all State government agencies should be consistent with Smart Growth goals. State agencies, for instance, should give priority to central business districts or downtown core areas when locating new facilities. When we work with local governments in rural areas, our efforts should be to ensure that we sustain the character of rural villages. And, to the extent possible, we should encourage federal agencies operating in Maryland to take actions consistent with Maryland’s Smart Growth goals.”

The Governor added: “We have a great opportunity to do lasting good for the State of Maryland - to reinvigorate our older cities and towns and at the same time save our most beautiful natural resources. In order to succeed, however, it will require hard work and-more importantly-complete cooperation.”

The Executive Order establishes the Smart Growth and Neighborhood Conservation Policy and reaffirms the Economic Growth, Resource Protection, and Planning Policy adopted by the Maryland General Assembly in 1992. The Smart Growth and Neighborhood Conservation Policy provides that:

- State agencies review, evaluate and coordinate programs, services, and activities in Priority Funding Areas to enhance and support community revitalization and conservation activities.



-
- State agencies work with local jurisdictions to ensure that programs and activities in a rural area will sustain the character of villages in the area.
 - State agencies give priority to central business districts, downtown cores, empowerment zones, and revitalization areas when funding infrastructure projects or locating new facilities.
 - State agencies are encouraged to locate workshops, conferences, and other meetings in Priority Funding Areas and support available businesses in these areas when planning such activities.
 - State agencies are urged to encourage federal agencies to adopt flexible regulations and standards which are more responsive to State and local policies and can be used to support Priority Funding Areas and the Economic Growth, Resource Protection, and Planning Policy; and
 - State agencies review their regulations to implement and assure compliance with the intent and purpose of the Executive Order.

The Policy is intended to guide decisions by each State agency in the Executive Branch. It is intended to apply to all decisions made by those agencies to the extent existing enabling legislation gives discretion regarding the way programs are applied. To the extent made possible by other legislative constraints, the Policy is applied to all State agencies. Finally, the Policy reaffirms that agencies will use their resources to support growth and redevelopment in Priority Funding Areas, as well as continue to assure that their actions are consistent with the Economic Growth, Resource Protection, and Planning Act of 1992.

In addition to clearly setting out Governor Glendening's policy regarding implementation of the Smart Growth Areas Act, the Executive Order establishes the roles to be played by each agency in supporting locally defined Priority Funding Areas. Specifically, when reviewing applications for new Enterprise Zones, the Department of Business and Economic Development is directed to "consider the jurisdiction's comprehensive plan, the location of the site in relation to available sewer and water and other Priority Funding Areas. Also, the Department of Transportation and the Maryland Office of Planning have been directed to develop procedures for the review of transportation projects.

The Order also establishes procedures for the review and coordination of projects and activities in Priority Funding Areas. This action is key to successful implementation of the Act. In determining that projects are located within Priority Funding Areas, the Order specifies that agencies will rely on maps and comments made by the Maryland Office of Planning when making decisions about project funding. Prior to funding a project, the agency will also obtain from the affected local government a statement that the proposed project is located within a certified Priority Funding Area.

In addition to project location, the Order requires that agencies work cooperatively to coordinate and focus programs and activities within Priority Areas. The agencies are to consider such factors as the location of Brownfields or Designated Neighborhood Business Development areas. They are to consider whether an action supports existing neighborhoods and communities and whether it will promote the use of mass transit. In general, actions and projects must be consistent with local plans and reduce sprawl.

The Maryland Office of Planning is required to report annually to the Governor, General Assembly and the Economic Growth, Resource Protection, and Planning Commission on the implementation of this policy. Project and program descriptions and costs within the Priority Funding Area are to be described, as are projects with extraordinary exceptions which are referred to the Board of Public Works. Finally, projects and programs reviewed by the Smart Growth and Neighborhood Conservation Subcabinet are to be delineated.

Overseeing this effort is a 13-member cabinet committee, the Smart Growth and Neighborhood Conservation Subcabinet, which is chaired by the Director of the Maryland Office of Planning. A high level staff committee representing twenty-nine State agencies will develop a list of programs, projects and activities to be used in Priority Funding Areas and identify procedures to coordinate these programs.



PART IV:

STATE INITIATIVES

During the past several years, the State of Maryland has implemented an impressive list of measures intended to better direct growth and revitalize older communities. Below is a list of these initiatives. Others are being developed within several State agencies. They will be included in future editions of this publication.

Public Outreach, Education and Assistance

A wide variety of outreach projects have been undertaken by various State agencies, including:

Smart Growth Website

Smart Growth Web Site: **www.op.state.md.us/smartgrowth**
The site is updated weekly. It provides detailed information on:

- Maryland's 1997 Smart Growth initiatives
- State agency growth management-related programs and activities
- County and municipal land use facts and activities
- Related sites and Internet resources.

*Contact: William Carroll, Maryland Office of Planning
(410/767-4580)*

Smart Growth Video

Smart Growth: "Preserving What's Best About Maryland," a 10 minute video, was produced by the Maryland Transportation Authority and is available for distribution by the Maryland Office of Planning.

Contact: Thomas Bass, Maryland Office of Planning (410/767-4432)



Models & Guidelines

An on-going series of booklets intends to provide counties and municipalities with information on innovative planning and implementation techniques. Currently, 18 booklets are available. Several more are in production. Other relevant and supporting “issue papers” have been developed. Booklets also are being offered on the Office of Planning’s website: **www.op.state.md.us**

*Contact: Scribner Sheafor, Maryland Office of Planning
(410/767-4550)*

Technical Assistance

The Departments of Transportation and Natural Resources and the Maryland Office of Planning have provided financial and staff assistance to counties and municipalities to assist with comprehensive planning requirements. The Office, in part aided by the Appalachian Regional Commission, has provided extensive technical planning and zoning assistance to communities in Western Maryland.

*Contact: Scribner Sheafor, Maryland Office of Planning
(410/767-4550)*

The Department of Natural Resources provides local governments with technical assistance and information concerning sensitive areas planning. The Department assists counties and municipalities with development of their Comprehensive Plans, subsequent revision of development regulations and more detailed natural resources management planning.

The Department of Natural Resources also is reaching out to builders, home owners, State agencies, large retailers and others to encourage the use of environmentally responsible “green” development practices. The focus of this program is on the use of building materials and design concepts that promote energy and water efficiency, sustainability and low impact designs.

*Contact: Mark Bundy, Maryland Department of Natural Resources
(410/260-8710)*

Outreach

Governor Parris N. Glendening and the Federal Transit Administration co-sponsored the *America Growing Smarter Summit* in Baltimore in June, 1997. The Conference, attended by over 1,000 people, brought together national experts and Maryland's leaders to discuss growth management theory, techniques and models using Maryland's current Growth initiative as a case study. Numerous other conferences and seminars are being held throughout the State. Call for events in your area!

A speakers bureau is being created within the Maryland Office of Planning to coordinate outreach throughout the State - and beyond. To date, well over 400 groups and individuals have sought speakers and information on growth management.

Contact: Thomas Bass, Maryland Office of Planning (410/767-4432)

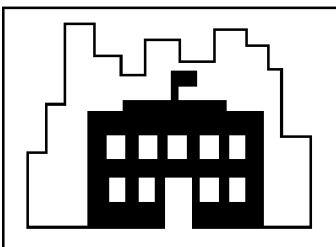
Education

The University of Maryland School of Public Affairs has created a broad-based educational program that will give State and local practitioners the needed knowledge and tools to better implement Smart Growth and related initiatives. The several components offered include: environmental systems; infrastructure planning and social, economic and environmental effects; building and preserving desirable communities, and governance, taxes and land-use planning.

Contact: Tracy Stanton, University of Maryland (301/405-6358)

With staffing provided by the Maryland Office of Planning, the Maryland Citizen Planners Association holds four to six regional sessions annually to provide updated information about planning and zoning and growth management for its membership - primarily members of county and municipal planning and zoning boards.

Contact: Tom Bass, Maryland Office of Planning (410/767-4432)



Economic Growth, Resource Protection and Planning Act of 1992

In 1992, the General Assembly enacted the Economic Growth, Resource Protection, and Planning Act (Growth Act). Since it took effect on October 1, 1992, the Growth Act has done much to reshape the way citizens, developers, the State, counties and municipalities think about and act on planning, growth management and resource protection. The Act is based on the widely-accepted "Visions" prepared in response to the 1987 Chesapeake Bay Agreement. It requires that all local Comprehensive Plans be updated periodically and be consistent with these seven Visions. Four sensitive areas are protected: streams and their buffers, 100-year floodplains, habitats for endangered species, and steep slopes.

The Growth Act also requires that local plans contain recommendations that: encourage streamlined review of development applications within areas designated for growth; encourage the use of flexible development regulations to promote innovative and cost-saving site design and protect the environment; and use innovative techniques to foster economic development in areas designated for growth. The Act requires that plans encourage more widespread use of flexible development standards. These requirements aim to direct development to areas where growth and development are wanted. Finally, zoning ordinances and subdivision regulations must be consistent with the Act, including the seven Visions.

The Economic Growth, Resource Protection, and Planning Commission, a 17-member Commission assisted by four statutory subcommittees, oversees the implementation of this Act and reports annually to the Governor and General Assembly on progress and any needed improvements.

Contact: Gail Moran, Maryland Office of Planning (410/767-4562)



Neighborhoods

Quality Community Surveys

Ten Maryland communities have been selected by the Maryland Department of Transportation's Mass Transit Administration to participate in an examination of what their residents like and do not like about their communities. This is a first step to identify what makes a community a good place to live and work. Surveys were completed in Rockville, the Reisterstown Road Plaza community of Baltimore City, Annapolis and Salisbury during 1997. Surveys are planned for 1998 in Leonardtown, College Park, Frederick, Cumberland, Baltimore City, Wheaton, Mount Rainier and eastern Baltimore County.

Contact: Beth Robinson, Maryland Department of Transportation (410/767-3999)

Housing Development Programs

The State assists in building safe, decent, affordable housing for Maryland's elderly and families through its rental housing production programs. Over 1,000 homes are financed each year. Financing is awarded competitively on a semi-annual basis. Development projects in neighborhood revitalization and targeted growth areas receive bonus points. In FY 1997, \$13 million in loan financing and \$6 million in federal tax credits were awarded. The programs offer flexible terms and conditions. Beginning in October, 1998, only Priority Funding Areas will be eligible for the financing of new rental housing construction.

Contact: Peter Engel, Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development (410/514-7481 or 1/800/756-0119)

Neighborhood Partnership Program

The Neighborhood Partnership Program promotes private investment in neighborhood revitalization areas by allocating \$1 million annually in Maryland corporate tax credits to help finance community revitalization. Tax credits are awarded on a competitive basis to non-profit organizations which sponsor locally-approved community assistance projects in designated neighborhoods. The nonprofit organizations market the tax credits to eligible Maryland corporations in exchange for contributions which support the approved projects. These corporate tax credits may be claimed in addition to State and federal deductions for charitable contributions, which may make the net cost



as low as 27 cents for each dollar contributed. For calendar year 1997, 29 non-profit organizations were awarded tax credit allocations.

Contact: Glenda Keel, Department of Housing and Community Development (410/514-7241)

Smart Growth/Smart Ideas Homeownership Initiative

This State home ownership initiative is a partnership with local governments and organizations. The program's purpose is to increase home ownership for low and middle income Marylanders, to strengthen communities and help families become economically independent. Home buyers purchasing properties in selected neighborhoods will be eligible for \$40 million in mortgage financing at four percent interest. The Department of Housing and Community Development is working with local governments to select neighborhoods or specific home ownership projects. These funds will finance homes for approximately 500 families.

Contact: Fran Makle, Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development (410/514-7530 or 1-800-638-7781)

Maryland Mortgage Program

This program is a critical Smart Growth and Neighborhood Conservation tool. It helps to strengthen neighborhoods by enabling working families to purchase homes through below-market interest rate mortgage financing made available through private lending institutions. The program is financed through the sale of tax-exempt mortgage revenue bonds. The program is targeted primarily to first-time home buyers. In FY 1997, 1598 loans totaling \$132.3 million were purchased.

Contact: Fran Makle, Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development (410/514-7530 or 1/800/638-7781)

Main Street Maryland

Main Street Maryland is a new downtown revitalization program intended to strengthen the economic potential of Maryland's traditional main streets and neighborhoods through a comprehensive approach to revitalization. The program stresses the importance of working simultaneously in four areas: organization, promotion, design and economic restructuring. Main Street Maryland encourages reten-

tion and reuse of existing resources while incorporating new, compatible development. Main Street Maryland competitively selects and assists communities in improving the economy, appearance and image of their traditional downtown business districts. By utilizing a program manager and a blend of private and public sector participation, the program provides guidance and technical assistance in all areas of downtown revitalization through on-site visits and consultations with professionals in the field. Initial participants include: Mount Rainier, Cumberland, Oakland, Easton, and Charles Village in the City of Baltimore. Additional communities will be selected in future years.

Contact: Cindy Stone, Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development (410/514-7256)

Neighborhood Business Development Program

Gap financing is provided for start-ups or expansions of for-profit and non-profit small businesses in designated revitalization areas with loans and grants ranging from \$25,000 to \$500,000. One hundred and eight projects, totaling \$18.4 million, have been funded in 21 jurisdictions since the program began in October, 1995. As of September, 1997, 127 neighborhoods were approved as designated revitalization areas. Seven million dollars was funded for both FY 1996 and 1997 and \$6.25 million in FY 1998.

Contact: Dottie Myers, Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development (410/514-7288 or 800/756-0199)

Neighborhood Stabilization Preservation Act of 1996

This demonstration program provides incentives to middle income home buyers to purchase homes, providing participants an 80 percent property tax credit. The tax credit is equally shared by the State and local government. Home buyers who purchase a home in the Hillendale neighborhood of Baltimore County or the Waverly neighborhood in Baltimore City between July, 1996 and June, 1999 are eligible. This demonstration will study the effectiveness of property tax credits over a three-year period.

*Contacts: Hillendale - JoAnne Holback, Baltimore County Neighborhood Housing Services (410/769-8820);
Waverly - Baltimore City Department of Housing and Community Development (410/399-5000)*

Neighborhood Conservation Program

This program, administered by the Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT), is targeted to road improvement projects that improve mobility and assist in the implementation of local revitalization plans. MDOT works with the local governments and the departments of Housing and Community Development and Business and Economic Development to identify eligible projects. Eligible improvements include streetscaping, curbs and gutters, repaving and lights. In FY 1998, the program is funded at \$7 million.

Contact: Yolanda Takesian, Maryland Department of Transportation (410/865-1287)

Retrofit Sidewalk Program

This Program pays up to 100 percent of the cost of sidewalks along State highways in locally-designated revitalization areas. Funds are allocated for projects at the request of local jurisdictions. In FY 1998, the Maryland Department of Transportation was allocated \$1.7 million for this initiative.

Contact: Dennis German, Maryland Department of Transportation (410/545-8900)

State Facilities Planning and State Purchases

The Department of General Services (DGS) uses growth management strategies in selecting sites for State leased and owned facilities as well as assessing options between the new construction and renovation of State buildings. Sites are generally acquired through Requests for Proposals that favorably score candidate properties located within revitalization/conservation areas. Additionally, DGS uses an economic benefit analysis to assess bids for commodities and equipment which enables the vendors to demonstrate a clear benefit to Maryland's economy based on their location.

Contacts: Michele Rozner, Department of General Services (410/767-4960); Steve Cassard, Department of General Services (410/767-4330); Tom Genetti, Department of General Services (410/767-4214); or Bob Cheeks, Department of General Services (410/767-4440)



Enterprise Zones

The Department of Business and Economic Development designates areas within the State and provides tax breaks to businesses which locate or expand within those areas. These breaks are provided to entice businesses into designated areas. Sites can be considered for inclusion in a zone if they are adjoining land with either a demonstrated high unemployment rate, high poverty rate, local income or population declines. The Department considers requests for Enterprise Zones in April and October of each year, choosing up to six sites annually across the state.

Enterprise Zones automatically are designated as Priority Funding Areas and are eligible for State infrastructure funding under the 1997 legislation.

Contact: Jerry Wade, Maryland Department of Business and Economic Development (410/767-6490)

Maryland Heritage Preservation and Tourism Areas Program

The Maryland Heritage Preservation and Tourism Areas Program was created in 1996 to build upon Maryland's potential for heritage tourism. It promotes historic preservation and areas of natural beauty to stimulate the creation of new businesses, jobs and generate tax revenues for the State and local jurisdictions.

Overseen by the Maryland Heritage Areas Authority, the Program provides matching grants, State tax credits and broad program support from State agencies to partnerships of local government and private interests to develop plans which guide public and private investment in the development of cultural tourism opportunities. Cumberland's Canal Place has been certified as a participating community. In September, 1997, the Authority designated Annapolis and London Town Heritage Area, Lower Susquehanna Heritage Greenway, Baltimore City Heritage Area, Patapsco Heritage Greenway, and Lower Eastern Shore Heritage Area as heritage areas. Additional areas may be designated in the future.

Contact: Bill Pencek, Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development (410/516-7604)

Business Assistance and Permit Coordination to Facilitate Appropriate Development

The Maryland Department of the Environment's (MDE) Environmental Permits Service Center works with MDE's permitting programs to streamline permitting and to provide assistance to businesses and other permit applicants. As resources permit, the Center undertakes outreach efforts to help businesses comply with environmental requirements and reduce costs and environmental liabilities by preventing pollution. As Smart Growth areas are identified, the Center will, where practical, target businesses in those areas for those outreach efforts.

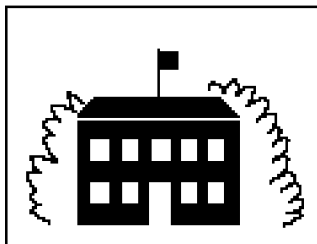
*Contact: Sue Battle, Maryland Department of the Environment
(410/631-3772)*

Public Schools

Public School Construction Program

The State Public School Construction Program continues to encourage that new schools be located in locally identified growth areas consistent with the 1992 Growth Act. Local education agencies are encouraged to renovate existing schools in established neighborhoods and communities, and construct additions to existing schools rather than develop a new school on a new site. The reopening and renovating of former public school buildings which were closed during reduced enrollment decades are also encouraged by the State program.

In 1995, the Public School Construction Program reordered its project classifications to place emphasis on the renovation of existing buildings. The Interagency Committee on School Construction, which directs this program, added the "enhancement of a major system" to the definition of an eligible systemic renovation project. Thus, the Program has increased the proportion of school construction funds for improvements to existing schools. In FY 1998, 81 percent of the construction projects approved were for renovation/addition programs. In addition, 192 projects were approved at existing schools for science lab renovations, wiring for technology and systemic renovations. In FY 1998, 95 percent of the State funds for School Construction was used for improvements to existing buildings.



The School Construction Program is working with the Neighborhood Design Center to develop a guide on school site redevelopment. That guide should be available by Summer, 1998.

Contact: Yale Stenzler or Barbara Strein, Public School Construction Program (410/767-0610)

The Aging School Program

Initiated in FY 1998 with an appropriation of \$4.35 million, the Aging School Program provides State funds to address the needs of aging school buildings in all public school systems. These funds do not require matching local funds and can be used for capital improvements, repairs, maintenance and deferred maintenance.

Contact: Barbara Strein, Maryland Public School Construction Program, (410/767-0619)

Public Safety

HotSpot Communities Initiative

The Cabinet Council on Criminal and Juvenile Justice, chaired by Lt. Governor Kathleen Kennedy Townsend, developed the HotSpot Communities Initiative as a crime fighting strategy targeted to specific geographic areas. Selected by local leaders, 35 HotSpot communities will receive more than \$10.5 million over the next three years for new police officers, probation agents, nuisance abatement teams, after school activities, citizen patrols and other proven enforcement and prevention strategies. This initiative functions as the public safety component to the Smart Growth and Neighborhood Conservation Initiatives.

In support of the HotSpot Communities Initiative, the local education agencies were directed by the State Public School Construction Program to identify projects in their FY 1998 Capital Improvement Programs which are in targeted communities. These projects will receive special consideration for funding by the Interagency Committee for School Construction.

Contact: Amanda Owings, Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention (410/321-3521)

Community Policing Activities

Several million dollars in block grants are designated for training and facilitating local police, public officials and private citizens on crime prevention and protection. This program enables public officials and private citizens to direct their training to safeguard and protect their neighborhoods.

Contact: Adam Gelb and Michael Sarbanes, Lt. Governor's Office (410/974-2804)

Expanded Policing Activities

In 1996, a comprehensive planning effort spearheaded by Governor Glendening and Lt. Governor Townsend identified a number of violent crime initiatives for the State Police. Additional appropriations and a realignment of State Police resources targeted to specific areas have resulted in a coordinated effort to provide safe communities, reduce violence and provide a climate for local economic development and growth. Additional activities include:

- Increased focus on illegal gun supply and demand, tracing and intelligence gathering, working closely with local police and providing training
- Regional crime analysis and computer mapping to identify crime trends for local policy use
- Assistance to federal and local police to solve sophisticated computer crimes
- Technical operation and crime prevention support for local police to control high crime areas and maintain order
- Increased services to rural areas with quicker drug analysis and family violence investigative services
- Focus on regional review of automobile thefts, aiding local police to solve multi-jurisdictional theft rings and carjacking

Contact: Doug Ward, Maryland State Police (410/653-4257)



Gun Control Legislation

This legislation aims to keep neighborhoods safe by employing a two-fold approach to reduce gun-related violent crimes in Maryland. First, the law identifies several new crimes involving the use or possession of firearms, increases the penalties for these crimes and authorizes the courts and law enforcement authorities to take action regulating firearms in domestic violence situations. Finally, the initiative makes the law stricter regarding sale, transfer and possession of firearms.

*Contact: Adam Gelb and Michael Sarbanes, Lt. Governor's Office
(410/974-2804)*

Transportation

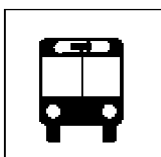
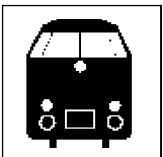
Smart Growth Transit Program

This program, run by the Maryland Department of Transportation in coordination with the Maryland Office of Planning and the Departments of Housing and Community Development and Business and Economic Development, provides funds for services and amenities that stimulate private investment adjacent to major transit facilities. The program aims to create high density, mixed-use and pedestrian oriented development that promotes efficient land use and increases transit ridership. \$1.75 million dollars was provided for this program in FY 1998.

*Contact: Jim Peiffer, Maryland Department of Transportation
(410/767-3906)*

TransitPlus

TransitPlus is an incentive program which allows employers to provide up to \$65 per employee, per month in tax-free transit benefits. TransitPlus consists of two programs: discounted monthly passes, and vouchers in \$10 and \$1 increments. They are available for inter-changeable and unlimited use on busses, the Metro, Light Rail and the MARC train. The monthly pass program is designed to give employers and employees the convenience of having passes available at the workplace through deliveries by the Mass Transit Administration. Passes are specially discounted to employers at a rate of 3.5 percent (with an option of discounting them even further, including giving them to employees free of charge). Internal Revenue Service guidelines allow employers to provide this as a tax-free transit benefit up to \$65 per employee, per month.



The voucher program works the same way as the pass program but offers more fare options.

*Contact: Buddy Alves, Maryland Department of Transportation
(410/767-8750)*

Preservation

Agricultural Land Preservation Foundation: Agricultural Easements

The Agricultural Land Preservation Program was created in 1977. The Program's intent is to preserve productive agricultural land and woodland, provide for the continued production of food and fiber, curb extent of urban sprawl and protect agricultural land and woodland as open space. Through FY 1997, 968 easements were granted, preserving 139,828 acres of farmland. County programs have preserved another 72,000 acres.

Contact: Paul Scheidt, Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Foundation (410/841-5860)

Maryland Environmental Trust: Environmental Easements

The Maryland Environmental Trust was established in 1967 to conserve, improve, stimulate and perpetuate the aesthetic, natural, scenic and cultural aspects of the environment. The Trust seeks donations of conservation easements on certain lands to perpetually preserve that land from development. As of July, 1997, the Trust held 400 easements, totaling 54,535 acres.

*Contact: James Highsaw, Maryland Environmental Trust
(410/514-7900)*

Maryland Historical Trust :Historic Preservation Easement

Maryland Historical Trust Easements are acquired through donations as a condition of Trust grants, loans and State bond funds. Gift easements are accepted on properties listed on or eligible for the National Register of Historic Places or located within a locally-certified or Register-listed historic district. Gift easements provide property owners with financial incentives. The Trust holds perpetual easements on over 400 architectural and archeological properties encompassing approximately 9,000 acres. Easement properties include a 17th century meeting house and 18th, 19th, and 20th century dwellings, schools, mills, farms and archeological sites.

Contact: Michael Day, Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development (410/514-7629)

Maryland Historical Trust Grant Fund and the Historic Preservation Revolving Loan Fund

The programs administered by the Department of Housing and Community Development's Maryland Historical Trust provide grants or loans for acquisition, rehabilitation and restoration of historic property. In addition, the grant program funds historic preservation education, promotion, research and survey activities. The maximum grant award is \$40,000, while loans average \$100,000 and have been as large as \$300,000.

Contact: Elizabeth Hughes, Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development (410/514-7617)

Program Open Space

Program Open Space acquires park land, forests, natural, scenic and cultural resources for public uses. The Program, established in 1969, is administered by the Department of Natural Resources. To date, it has acquired over 158,000 acres of open space for State parks and natural resource protection, while assisting local governments to protect more than 25,000 acres of park land. Over 2,800 local projects have been funded through Program Open Space in nearly every local jurisdiction in Maryland. These projects include play grounds, ball fields, tennis courts, golf courses, regional parks, swimming pools, fishing and hunting areas, hiking trails, boat-launching facilities, forests, wildlife areas, historic sites, natural habitat, formal gardens, Chesapeake Bay shoreline access sites and many more.

The Program provides 100 percent funding to buy needed land for State, county and municipal parks and natural areas. It also pays 75 percent of development costs of county and city parks and recreation areas. A maximum of 25 percent of the annual State program budget can be used for park and recreational development.

Contact: Grant Dehart, Maryland Department of Natural Resources (410/260-8425)

Forest Conservation Program

The Forest Conservation Act was adopted to conserve the State's forest resources during land development. The Act requires delineation of forest stands, protection of the most desirable forest stands and establishment of areas where new forests can be planted. Forest conservation planning occurs during the initial design or site plan of a proposed development, when forest conservation can occur without causing undue economic costs.

The Forest Conservation Act establishes standards for local authorities to enforce during development. In addition, the Act is a means to protect not only forests and trees in developing areas, but also any sensitive areas identified during the local planning or Comprehensive Plan adoption process. Standards established in the Act for identification, retention and replanting include those areas designated as sensitive areas under the 1992 Growth Act (see page 22).

Contact: Marian Honeczy, Maryland Department of Natural Resources (410/260-8511)

Buffer Incentive Program

The Program provides landowners with a one-time grant payment of \$300 per acre to plant forest buffers along streams and waterways to help reduce non-point source pollutants running into the Chesapeake Bay. Further, the Program educates the public about the importance of forests and forested buffers in protecting water quality. In 1996, Governor Glendening committed the State to protect an additional 600 miles of streams and rivers within the State by the year 2010.

Contact: Donald VanHassent, Maryland Department of Natural Resources (410/260-8504)



Forest Legacy Program

The purpose of this program is to identify and protect environmentally-important forest lands that are threatened by conversion to non-forest uses. The program is to assure that both the traditional uses of private lands and the public values of Maryland's forest resources are protected for future generations. To accomplish this, interests in lands will be acquired in designated areas primarily through the use of perpetual conservation easements. In addition to protecting forest land from conversion to non-forest, the program will assure the protection of important scenic, cultural, fish, wildlife and recreational resources, riparian areas and other ecological values found on these lands.

Contact: Donald VanHassent, Maryland Department of Natural Resources (410/260-8504)

Stewardship Incentive Program

The Program offers financial assistance through reimbursable cost-sharing to help private forest landowners implement specific forest management practices. These practices include tree planting, wildlife habitat enhancement, riparian and wetland habitat enhancement and recreational opportunity development. Through the cost sharing of these practices, the program aims to encourage landowners to retain their forest land rather than developing it.

Contact: Donald VanHassent, Maryland Department of Natural Resources (410/260-8504)

Wild Acres Program

Through the Wild Acres Program, individual citizens and neighborhoods can learn to create wildlife habitats right in their own backyards or community open spaces. The program includes over 30 detailed information sheets that illustrate projects like building nest boxes for wrens, bluebirds and even owls; planting butterfly gardens and meadows; planting and caring for trees and shrubs; and sample wildlife landscapes for small properties, decks or porches. Properties certified as wildlife habitat through Wild Acres receive a certificate and a periodic newsletter with up-to-date wildlife gardening tips. Over 3000 properties currently are certified, including backyards, parks, hospital grounds, farms, school grounds and many others.

*Contact: Edith Thompson, Maryland Department of Natural Resources
(410/260-8555)*

Conservation Resource Enhancement Program

In a greatly expanded federal/State partnership, the Maryland Department of Agriculture is coordinating a multi-year, \$200 million-plus voluntary program to encourage farmers to remove cropland, plant buffer strips, restore wetlands and other measures along Maryland's tributaries. Currently, 18,000-20,000 acres of Maryland farmland has been enrolled in this program. It is expected that this new effort will result in leaving 100,000 agricultural acres fallow and creating approximately 5,000 miles of buffers against runoff pollution by the year 2002. It also is expected that up to 25,000 acres of wetlands will be restored.

Under the program, farmers will be paid annual rent from the federal government for up to fifteen years. State monies will be used to purchase permanent easements on one-quarter of the targeted acreage as a way of restoring wetlands critical to screening out nutrients and other pollutants seeping into the Chesapeake Bay.

*Contact: Royden Powell, Maryland Department of Agriculture
(410/841-6865)*

Farmland Preservation Atlas

The Maryland Office of Planning has completed an atlas of farmland preservation. State, regional and county maps are included, showing the relationship among such things as land use, zoning, development pressure, easements, conservation zones and soils. Accompanying text explains the implications of these forces on farmland preservation.

Contact: Daniel Rosen, Maryland Office of Planning (410/767-4562)

Environmental

Hazard Mitigation Assistance

The Maryland Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) provides hazard mitigation funds to eligible individuals, State agencies and non-profit organizations. These funds can be used for approved projects that eliminate or lessen a repetitive problem resulting from a disaster or prevent flood damages.

Contact: Evalyn Fisher, Maryland Emergency Management Agency (410/486-4422)

Water and Sewerage Infrastructure Financing

The Department of the Environment (MDE) has been working with local planning and public works officials to facilitate the inclusion of the seven Visions of the 1992 Growth Act into the county Water and Sewerage Plans. MDE has redirected its water quality capital programs to encourage State capital investment in projects which complement federal and State pollution control laws, facilitate community revitalization, replace and upgrade aging water and sewerage infrastructure, and provide treatment capacity and adequate conveyance systems to support growth within these communities. Nearly all current funds are targeted toward existing development areas. Beginning with FY 1999, MDE will designate projects according to Smart Growth goals.

MDE works with other agencies, notably the Department of Housing and Community Development and the USDA Rural Utilities Service, to fund needed water and wastewater projects in the more rural and less affluent areas of the State. MDE has proposed the creation of an inter-agency network and designation of agency contacts which would share information regarding requests for funding, develop inter-



agency project priorities, and meet periodically as needed to make decisions regarding the targeting of State resources in a comprehensive manner to communities in Maryland.

*Contact: Virginia Kearny, Maryland Department of the Environment
(410/631-3574)*

State Air Emission Offset Banking and Trading Program

Emissions offsets are part of the State's air pollution control plan to comply with federal air quality standards while providing for economic development in our state. Certain industries seeking to locate or expand in Maryland must first obtain emission credits to offset emission increases associated with their operations. The Department of the Environment is promoting and encouraging Smart Growth policies through the Emissions Offset Banking and Trading regulation development process by:

- Promoting the establishment of a State reserve for environmental improvement;
- Using the emissions offset in the State reserve to encourage development (or redevelopment) in Smart Growth areas.

*Contact: Diane Franks, Maryland Department of the Environment
(410/631-3240)*



Ecosystem Management Assessment Program

The Department of Natural Resources is developing the Ecosystem Management Assessment Program (EMA). The purpose of EMA is to demonstrate how to use cost-effective conservation programs and practices to best manage property and structures for a healthy environment. EMA creates an approach for land and facilities management emphasizing conservation programs and practices that provide the best in natural resource management and offer reduced costs in comparison to conventional approaches.

The Program will include an educational component for site managers and others involved in the process of managing and developing facilities, a handbook of conservation programs and practices, a site assessment protocol or process and a site certification program based on adherence to established conservation standards. EMA is directed toward both publically and privately held lands, with an initial demonstration on State-owned lands planned for Spring, 1998.

*Contact: Ronald Gardner, Maryland Department of Natural Resources
(410/260-8813)*

[REDACTED]

APPENDIX

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

